



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 4, 2010**

The Public Safety Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, January 4, 2010 at City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Michael Lauderdale, called the Board Meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Aman Bandali
Ramey Ko
Michael Lauderdale
Michael Levy
Kim Rossmo
Moses Saldana Jr.

1. Approval of Minutes

- a. The minutes from the meeting on December 4, 2009 were approved with the following amendments on Commission Member Rossmo's motion, Commission Member Bandali's second on a 6-0 vote.
- b. The amendments included: On Page 3 under letter "f", the sentence should include "the possibility of having alternative site locations and times for meetings. This topic was also requested to be placed on the January 4, 2010 agenda." On Page 3 under letter "i", the following information should have been included: "Commission Member Ko requested that this item be placed on the January 4, 2010 agenda." A motion to amend was approved on Commission Member Ko's motion, Commission Member Bandali's second on a 6-0 vote.
- c. The amendments included: On Page 3 under letter "d", the following information should be included: "Vice-Chair Levy asked that department directors and association presidents speak about the challenges as they saw them. This information should be presented with no handouts and no slides and not as a detailed overview. Vice-Chair Levy stated that these topics should lead the agenda and address challenges facing the community in the arenas that the public safety agencies have responsibility for." Vice-Chair Levy also made a side suggestion to have Mr. Davila listen to the audio of the meeting so that the minutes corresponded with the audio recording. A motion to amend was approved on Commission Member Levy's motion, Commission Member Ko's second on a 6-0 vote.

2. Citizen Communications

- a. Patricia Zavala from the Workers Defense Project, which is a non profit organization, gave a presentation fair working conditions for Austin's low wage workers by educating them about their employment rights and assisting workers who have suffered wage theft to recover their hard earned wages.

3. Overview of Public Safety and Matters related to the Operation of this Commission – Assistant City Manager Michael McDonald

- a. This item was pushed to the end of the agenda and was not discussed.

4. Support and Legal Issues Pertaining to Boards and Commissions

- a. This item was pushed to the end of the agenda and was not discussed.

5. Procedures for Developing Each Meeting’s Agenda – Chair Michael Lauderdale

- a. This item was pushed to the end of the agenda and was not discussed.

6. Rules of Procedure Discussion – Chair Michael Lauderdale

- a. This item was pushed to the end of the agenda and was not discussed.

7. Department Director Introductions and Overview

- a. Austin Police Department Chief of Police Art Acevedo addressed the major challenges and unmet needs of the police department. Vice-Chair Levy requested an update on what neighborhoods are paying for their own visibility with Constables or off-duty officers.
- b. Austin Police Association President Wayne Vincent addressed the major challenges and unmet needs as seen through the eyes of the 1500 plus association membership.
- c. Austin Fire Department Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr addressed the major challenges and unmet needs of the fire department. Information was requested from Chief Kerr in regards to the restroom facilities update, demographics of Austin Fire Department, the water problems at the station located on 32nd street, fire investigations, downtown staffing, comparison to other cities, and the wildland fire situation. Chief Kerr who stated that she would get the information to the commission.
- d. Austin Fire Association President Bob Nicks addressed the major challenges and unmet needs as seen through the membership of the association.
- e. Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services – Ernie Rodriguez
 - This item was not discussed due to time constraints
- f. Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services Association – Steve Stewart
 - This item was not discussed due to time constraints

Vice-Chair Levy stated that the Public Safety Commission meeting continue next month with the existing agenda elements and include the day and time of the meeting. Vice-Chair Levy also requested that EMS lead the meeting before going to the next agenda items.

A motion to allow Commission Member Ko to explore the logistics of an opportunity to participate in a police training course was approved on Commission Member Ko’s motion, Commission Member Bandali’s second on a 6-0 vote.

Chair Lauderdale added that next month’s should begin with the EMS presentations but should be followed by a presentation by Assistant City Manager Michael McDonald on procedural and budget operations, and followed by the fusion center discussion.

Commission Member Rossmo will chair the Police Committee. Commission Member Ko and Bandali will also sit on the Police Committee. Vice-Chair Levy will chair the Fire/EMS Committee. Commission Member Moses Saldana will sit on the Fire/EMS Committee.

Note: The agenda was taken out of order so that the Public Safety Commission could hear from the public safety director's and association presidents presentations first. Immediately following the presentation from Citizen Communications, Item 7 was addressed.

8. Adjournment

DRAFT